La Sapienza

Valutazione esterna tesi di dottorato Studi germanici e slavi 36° ciclo

CALVANI EMILIO

Evaluation form for PhD dissertation

Evaluation form

Title of the thesis

Reading the Post-migrant: Reinterpreting Migrant Literature in Scandinavia

Affiliation of the reviewer

Charles university Prague

Report

This thesis is a very good contribution to migration or post-migration literature, it is a work with interdisciplinary features as the topic itself and at the same time, thanks to the coherence of the topic, it can become a good starting point for further researcher. In this respect, I recommend to accept the thesis, although I suggest some minor changes.

1) Post-migration vs. migration. The central theme of the thesis is post-migration, a concept in which migration is seen as a natural part of the whole society, in other words, migration backgrounds are not seen as a distinct difference. However, the fundamental problem with the chosen approach is the difficulty of drawing the boundaries between migration and post-migration approaches. If we take the post-migration situation as a situation in which migration is given, yet the thesis explores basic migration concepts such as multilingualism and differentiation in general, are we not going against the essence of the post-migration approach? The issue of the difficulty of distinguishing between migration and post-migration should be taken into account even more than it has been so far.

2) The uniqueness of Scandinavian literature. The theoretical part of the thesis outlines the uniqueness of the Scandinavian post-migration society in relation to the welfare state, but the reflection of this fact is not sufficiently noticeable in the analyses of the literary works or in the conclusion. It would be useful to reflect further in the conclusion on whether the literary works are unique in the context of global post-migration literature in the same way as Scandinavian society.

3) Significant representation of theory. The thesis is very well structured and draws on a large amount of secondary literature. Overall, however, it is the theory that is very much in the foreground. This criticism is only marginal, however, even in this ratio of theory to practice, the thesis still works as a whole.

Confidential report (it will not be shown to the candidate)

Evaluation file (optional)

Presentation and clarity

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [ ] Good   [**X**] Excellent

The reviewer should be able to read the text without difficulty. This implies that the dissertation is clear and 'user friendly', without duplications or repetitions.

Integration and coherence

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [ ] Good   [**X**] Excellent

The manuscript should present logical and rational links between different parts of the thesis.

Introduction to scientific background

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [**X**] Good   [ ] Excellent

The text should contain a satisfactory introduction to the scientific background which is relevant to the research, preparing the reader to the exposition of the problem.

Review of relevant literature

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [**X**] Good   [ ] Excellent

The candidate must have a detailed knowledge of original sources, have a thorough knowledge of the field, and understand the main theoretical and methodological issues.

Statement of research problem

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [**X**] Good   [ ] Excellent

A clear statement of the research problem should be made, together with specific hypotheses, predictions, or questions which the research is designed to address.

Originality

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [**X**] Good   [ ] Excellent

The research must be the candidate's own work. The degree of independence may vary according to the research topic.

Contribution to knowledge and scientific relevance

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [**X**] Good   [ ] Excellent

The dissertation should be substantial enough to be able to form the basis of two articles on refereed journal, a book or research monograph.

Mastery of the English language

[ ] None   [ ] Poor   [ ] Average   [ ] Good   [**X**] Excellent

The candidate must be proficient in written English and show mastery of appropriate scientific/technical language.

A major goal of the review process is to evaluate if the present version of the thesis is:

1) adequate as is

2) require minor revision

3) require major revision

for admission of the candidate to the defense of the work in front of a national evaluation board.

[ ] Accept as is   [**X**] Minor revision   [ ] Major revision

Date: 12/3/2023
Reviewer: Stahr Radka